Anti-Slavery Office,
New York, 23 May, 1862.

67

Dear Garrison,

I hoped the Liberator bundle would bring a few lines from you in relation to Pillsbury's communication, informing me whether or not you thought it worth while to ask the advice of the Committee, and if so, what conclusion they came to. Since sending the letter to you, I have, I confess, doubted somewhat whether I acted wisely — whether it would not have been better to await the result of my remonstrance with P. himself. As I told you, I wrote him a kind but

earnest letter. I enclose his reply, from which you will see that while he maintains that the communication, ~~as~~ from the stand-point of the ~~agent~~ agents, ~~was~~ is needed, he yet relieves me of any Obligation to print it. He is laboring under a strange hallucination, at least so far as the Standard is concerned. I wrote him yesterday, in reply to the note now enclosed, denying the truth of his statement, that "the Standard affirms that the work of the lecturer is done." I put the case strongly, but kindly, assuring him that I had never heard or dreamed of any suggestion that the work of our old and experienced lecturers

was finished; and reminding him, moreover, that McKim, in his correspondence, spoke exclusively of the Pa. Society, of which he himself had been almost the only lecturer for years; that he had no thought of the Am. or Mass. Society, or their agents, &c. &c. I declined returning his communication, wishing to preserve it as a protection, myself against any possible mistake or misapprehension hereafter as to the grounds upon which I was unwilling to print it. I know right well that I shall be accused in certain quarters of restricting the liberty of the field agents, of disregarding the right of free discussion, &c. &c. This morning,

Anti-Slavery Office,
New York, 23 May, 1862.

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